# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA ATLANTA DIVISION

SHAMEEKA HILL and others similarly situated

Plaintiff,

v.

STRATMAR FINANCIAL RETAIL COVERAGE LLC, d/b/a/ Stratmar Retail Services

**Defendant** 

**CIVIL ACTION** 

FILE NO.:

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

## **COMPLAINT**

Plaintiff Shameeka Hill sues Defendant StratMar Financial Retail Coverage LLC on behalf of herself and others similarly situated — demanding trial by jury—to recover unpaid overtime wage compensation, liquidated damages, attorney's fees and costs under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, as amended, 29 U.S.C. §201, et seq.

## **OVERVIEW**

1. Defendant StratMar Financial Retail Coverage LLC ("StratMar") failed to pay the named Plaintiff and others similarly situated federally mandated

overtime wages in violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 ("FLSA"), as amended, 29 U.S.C. §201, et seq.

## **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 2. Jurisdiction of this Court is predicated under 28 U.S.C. §1331, and the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. §216(b). Supplemental jurisdiction over the state-law claims is predicated under 28 U.S.C. §1367.
- 3. Venue is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1391. The cause of action arose in Clayton County, Georgia, in the Northern District of Georgia.

#### **PARTIES**

- 4. Plaintiff Shameeka Hill ("Ms. Hill") is a resident of the Northern District of Georgia and a citizen of the State of Georgia. Ms. Hill was employed by StratMar to work in the Northern District of Georgia beginning in February, 2013 and is entitled to the protections of the FLSA under 29 U.S.C. §203(e).
- 5. Defendant StratMar Financial Retail Coverage LLC ("StratMar") is a Limited Liability Company registered in New York and based in Port Chester, New York.
- 6. StratMar regularly conducts business in Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, where Ms. Hill is employed, and as such is subject to the jurisdiction of this court.

7.

#### **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

- 8. StratMar is an "employer" as defined by the FLSA and "engaged in commerce" as defined by the FLSA. 29 U.S.C. §§203(d) and (s)(1). StratMar employed Ms. Hill to solicit credit card applications at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. StratMar's gross revenue exceeded the statutory minimum to be "engaged in commerce" under the FLSA during the periods relevant to this lawsuit.
- 9. Since the inception of her employment, StratMar violated the FLSA by employing Ms. Hill and others similarly situated as "In-Airport Sales Representatives" for more than 40 hours a week without compensating them for their employment in excess of 40 hours at rates not less than 1½ times the regular rate at which they were employed.
- 10. StratMar paid Ms. Hill and other In-Airport Sales Representatives on an hourly basis.
- 11. StratMar did not pay Ms. Hill and other In-Airport Sales Representatives a guaranteed salary.
- 12. StartMar regularly required Ms. Hill and other In-Airport Sales Representatives to work for more than 40 hours a week.
  - 13. Ms. Hill works an average of 48 hours a week

- 14. StratMar required Ms. Hill to work "off the clock" doing clerical and manual tasks including processing payroll, processing expense reports, and running errands for supplies for StratMar.
- 15. StratMar required Ms. Hill and other In-Airport Sales Representatives to work "off the clock" soliciting credit card applications when StratMar was not reaching its application quotas.
- 16. StratMar instructed its managers at the Atlanta Airport to alter the time records of Ms. Hill and other In-Airport Sales Representatives so that they would reflect 40 hours per week or less whenever they worked more than 40 hours per week.
- 17. Ms. Hill saw the alteration to her time records and to the time records of other similarly situated In-Airport Sales Representatives.

## **COUNT ONE**

# Violation of the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 201, et. seq.

- 18. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1-16 of this complaint as if fully set out below.
- 19. StratMar owes Ms. Hill for an estimated 700 hours of overtime wages at 1½ times her regular rate of \$14.00 per hour.

- 20. The amount of compensation owed to others similarly situated is unknown but estimated to be similar to that of Ms. Hill based on Stratmar's practices.
- 21. Defendants have not only failed to maintain all of the records required by the Fair Labor Standards Act and the regulations promulgated thereunder, they have also deliberately and intentionally falsified records.
- 22. StratMar's violations of the FLSA were willful and without justification or excuse under the FLSA.
- 23. Based on these willful violations, Ms. Hill and others similarly situated are entitled to seek compensation for underpayment of the overtime wages incurred within three years of the filing of the complaint as well as liquidated damages and reasonable attorney's fees pursuant to 29 U.S.C. §216(b).

WHEREFORE, Ms. Hill demands a TRIAL BY JURY and the following relief:

- (a) An award to her and others similarly situated of the unpaid overtime they are owed;
- (b) An award to her and others similarly situated of liquidated damages for StratMar's willful violations of the FLSA's minimum wage provisions;

- (c) Reasonable attorney's fees and costs under 29 U.S.C. §216(b); and
- (d) Such other relief as this Court finds just and proper.

  Respectfully submitted this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of December, 2014.

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Counsel for Plaintiff

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

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	Northern Distr	ict of Georgia
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SHAMEEKA HILL and others	similarly situated	) ) )
Plaintiff(s)		
v.		Civil Action No.
		)
STRATMAR FINANCIAL RETA d/b/a/ Stratmar Retai	-	) ) )
Defendant(s)		, )
	SUMMONS IN A	A CIVIL ACTION
-	StratMar Financial Retail Co 09 Willett Avenue Port Chester, NY 10573	overage LLC
	rice of this summons on yo	u (not counting the day you received it) — or 60 days if you
P. 12 (a)(2) or (3) — you must see the Federal Rules of Civil Proced whose name and address are:	rve on the plaintiff an ansv	or or employee of the United States described in Fed. R. Civ. wer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of a must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney,
2 A	he Morgan Law Firm P.C. 60 Peachtree Street, Suite tlanta, Georgia 30303 104) 496-5430	1601
If you fail to respond, jud You also must file your answer o		ntered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.
		CLERK OF COURT
Date:		
	_	Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

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Civil Action No.

#### PROOF OF SERVICE

(This section should not be filed with the court unless required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 4 (1))

	This summons for (nam	e of individual and title, if any)			
was re	ceived by me on (date)	·			
	☐ I personally served	the summons on the individual a	at (place)		
			on (date)	; or	
	☐ I left the summons a	at the individual's residence or u	sual place of abode with (name)		
	, a person of suitable age and discretion who resides there,				
	on (date)	, and mailed a copy to	the individual's last known address; or		
	☐ I served the summor	ns on (name of individual)		, who is	
	designated by law to accept service of process on behalf of (name of organization)				
			on (date)	_ ; or	
	☐ I returned the summ	ons unexecuted because		; or	
	Other (specify):				
	My fees are \$	for travel and \$	for services, for a total of \$	0.00	
	I declare under penalty	of perjury that this information	is true.		
Date:			Server's signature		
			server s signature		
			Printed name and title		
			Server's address		

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc: